

**Wilson, Elise**

2022-155E

3070 39

**From:** Bateman, Andrew  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 3:23 PM  
**To:** Wilson, Elise  
**Cc:** Samuel Wellborn; PSC\_Contact; Self, Amanda; Wilhite, Sarah; Mark Baker; Campbell, Chad  
**Subject:** RE: [External] Duke Energy LED Streetlights

Ms. Wilson,

I understand that the ORS Consumer Services Department has closed the complaint case for Mr. Baker.

Thank you,

Andrew

**From:** Wilson, Elise <Elise.Wilson@psc.sc.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 12:05 PM  
**To:** Bateman, Andrew <abateman@ors.sc.gov>; Campbell, Chad <ccampbell@ors.sc.gov>  
**Cc:** Samuel Wellborn <sam.wellborn@duke-energy.com>; PSC\_Contact <Contact@psc.sc.gov>; Calloway, Tatiana <tcalloway@ors.sc.gov>; Kirby, Brad <bkirby@ors.sc.gov>; Self, Amanda <ASelf@scconsumer.gov>; Waller, Takisha <twaller@ors.sc.gov>; Wilhite, Sarah <swilhite@ors.sc.gov>; Willis, Iva <iwillis@ors.sc.gov>; Mark Baker <mbaker@softlights.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [External] Duke Energy LED Streetlights

Good afternoon, Andrew.

For our records, please let me know if there an open or closed investigation regarding Mr. Baker's complaint below?

Thank you.

Elise

**From:** Mark Baker <mbaker@softlights.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 11:48 AM  
**To:** Wilson, Elise <Elise.Wilson@psc.sc.gov>  
**Cc:** Bateman, Andrew <abateman@ors.sc.gov>; Campbell, Chad <ccampbell@ors.sc.gov>; Samuel Wellborn <sam.wellborn@duke-energy.com>; PSC\_Contact <Contact@psc.sc.gov>; Calloway, Tatiana <tcalloway@ors.sc.gov>; Kirby, Brad <bkirby@ors.sc.gov>; Self, Amanda <ASelf@scconsumer.gov>; Waller, Takisha <twaller@ors.sc.gov>; Wilhite, Sarah <swilhite@ors.sc.gov>; Willis, Iva <iwillis@ors.sc.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Duke Energy LED Streetlights

Dear Elise,

Thank you for your email. I am unclear as to your question, because the toxicity issue of LED streetlights is not bounded by any particular corporate structure. If you need me to choose a particular entity, I choose Duke Energy Progress.

Sincerely,

**Wilson, Elise**

---

**From:** Wilson, Elise  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2022 2:00 PM  
**To:** Mark Baker; Bateman, Andrew; Campbell, Chad  
**Cc:** Samuel Wellborn; PSC\_Contact; Calloway, Tatiana; Kirby, Brad; Self, Amanda; Waller, Takisha; Wilhite, Sarah; Willis, Iva  
**Subject:** RE: [External] Quality of LED Streetlights

Good afternoon, Mr. Baker.

Thank you for your most recent email.

We are in the process of processing your complaint.

Respectfully,

Elise Wilson  
Public Service Commission  
State of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive  
Saluda Building, Suite 100  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210  
803.896.5100

**From:** Mark Baker <mbaker@softlights.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2022 8:51 AM  
**To:** PSC\_Contact <contact@psc.sc.gov>  
**Subject:** [External] Quality of LED Streetlights

Dear South Carolina Public Service Commission,

The photo below shows an LED streetlight on the left and an HPS streetlight on the right.



**Is the LED streetlight the same or better quality as the HPS streetlight?**

A response is requested.

Sincerely,

Mark Baker  
President  
Soft Lights Foundation  
[www.softlights.org](http://www.softlights.org)  
[mbaker@softlights.org](mailto:mbaker@softlights.org)

Mark Baker  
 President  
 Soft Lights Foundation  
[www.softlights.org](http://www.softlights.org)  
[mbaker@softlights.org](mailto:mbaker@softlights.org)

On Thu, Apr 21, 2022 at 7:24 AM Wilson, Elise <[Elise.Wilson@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Elise.Wilson@psc.sc.gov)> wrote:

Good morning, Mr. Baker.

Thank you for your correspondence. Please reply "all" if you are filing your complaint against Duke Energy Progress or Duke Energy Carolinas.

Thank you.

Elise Wilson

Public Service Commission

State of South Carolina

101 Executive Center Drive

Saluda Building, Suite 100

Columbia, South Carolina 29210

803.896.5100

**From:** Mark Baker <[mbaker@softlights.org](mailto:mbaker@softlights.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 9:12 AM

**To:** PSC\_Commissioner.Williams <[Commissioner.Williams@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Williams@psc.sc.gov)>

**Cc:** PSC\_Commissioner.Belser <[Commissioner.Belser@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Belser@psc.sc.gov)>; PSC\_Commissioner.Caston <[Commissioner.Caston@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Caston@psc.sc.gov)>; PSC\_Commissioner.CWilliams <[Commissioner.CWilliams@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.CWilliams@psc.sc.gov)>; PSC\_Commissioner.Ervin <[Commissioner.Ervin@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Ervin@psc.sc.gov)>; PSC\_Commissioner.Thomas <[Commissioner.Thomas@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Thomas@psc.sc.gov)>; PSC\_Commissioner.Powers <[Commissioner.Powers@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Powers@psc.sc.gov)>; Kirby, Brad <[bkirby@ors.sc.gov](mailto:bkirby@ors.sc.gov)>

**Subject:** [External] Duke Energy LED Streetlights

Dear Justin Williams, Chair, South Carolina Public Service Commission,

We contacted the Office of Regulatory Staff regarding the toxic LED streetlights installed by Duke Energy and we received a phone call from Brad Kirby of the ORS. Mr. Kirby and I spoke at length about LED streetlights and Mr. Kirby informed me that the ORS has no jurisdiction for protecting public health, meaning that even though the LED streetlights are causing severe injury to South Carolina residents, the ORS has no desire to do anything about it. Therefore, I am contacting the Commission directly.

Duke Energy claims that their LED streetlights are energy-efficient. This is a false claim. The definition of **energy efficiency is providing the same quality of service using less energy**. LED light is lower quality spatially (non-uniform, excessive peak luminance), spectrally (excessive blue wavelength light), and temporally (flicker), and therefore, by definition, LED light cannot be energy efficient when compared to Sodium streetlights.

The result of Duke Energy's switch to LED streetlights is a severe public health and environmental crisis. People are reporting epileptic seizures, migraines, panic attacks, nausea, lupus flares, increased aggression, eye pain and other health effects due to the combination of high peak luminance, high blue content, and flicker.

The South Carolina Public Service Commission seems to have no metrics for ensuring that streetlights produce quality light and no metrics to ensure public health and safety. How do we have the Commission act to correct this situation?

Sincerely,

Mark Baker

President

Soft Lights Foundation

[www.softlights.org](http://www.softlights.org)

[mbaker@softlights.org](mailto:mbaker@softlights.org)